

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
NEW TECHNOLOGY IN CASHEW SECTOR
Rajendran Shri P.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details on the export of cash crops, particularly cashew nut and import of cashew kernels in India for each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government have taken any steps to modernize the industry by introducing new technology;
- (c) if so, details thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed to increase export of cash crops ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 FOR 3.12.2004 REGARDING NEW TECHNOLOGY IN CASHEW SECTOR

(a) As per information furnished by Cashew Export Promotion Council, India traditionally exports cashew kernel and imports raw cashew nut. Export data of some of the cash crops including cashew kernel, for the last three years is as indicated below:

Qty: MT / Value: Rs.crore

Commodity 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04

Quan- tity	Value tity	Quan- tity	Value tity	Quantity	Value
Cashew kernel#	98203 1788.68	104137 1933.02	100828 1804.43		
Spices##	239286 1496.97	277015 1655.49	246979 1525.60		
Tea##	180102 1719.22	182862 1652.06	184300 1594.55		
Coffee##	176262 1094.92	184874 993.97	180440 1082.22		
Tobacco##	97936 807.70	100472 1022.89	121712 1090.81		

(## Source : DGCI&S)

(# Source : CEPC)

Import of raw cahsewnut for the last three years is as indicated below:

Year Import of raw cashew nut

	Quantity(MT)	Value (Rs. Crs.)
2001-02	355556	950.01
2002-03	400659	1236.60
2003-04	452398	1400.90

Source:CEPC

(b) & (c) In order to meet requirements of international standards, the Department of Commerce through the Cashew Export Promotion Council is implementing on a continuing basis and integrated scheme for improving cashew kernel quality which includes setting up/improving the facilities for Cashew Kernels in Value Added Form/Consumer Packs, Quality Upgradation by Process Improvement, Implementation of Internationally accepted Certification Scheme and Introduction of Flexi Pouch Vacuum Packing System. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided to cashew kernel exporters.

(d) Some of the steps proposed to increase export of cash crops include post-harvest improvement through training and infrastructure development; trade promotion; extending support for upgradation of technology; setting up/upgradation of laboratories; accreditation of units in Good Manufacturing Practices(GMP)/ Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point(HACCP)/ International Standard Organisation(ISO); packaging development, printing of business brochures, business tours abroad.